THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) 674.

(b) 021.

(c) and (d) All due compensation to the families whose land were acquired has been paid.

De-reserving production of defence items

2741. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA:
SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL:
SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are proposing to de-reserve defence production and open it for private participation through licensing;

(b) if so, by when a decision is likely to be taken;

(c) whether till date production of arms and ammunition alongwith allied items of defence equipment including aircraft and warships are currently in reserved category; and

(d) if so, what are the presently reserved categories of equipment which are to be opened to the private sector and the basis of licensing?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (d) As per the existing industrial policy, manufacture of arms, ammunition and allied items of defence equipment, defence aircraft and warships is reserved for the public sector. Non-lethal stores required by the Armed Forces and raw materials, semi-finished products, components and sub-systems required by Ordnance factories and Defence PSUs only are being procured from the private sector. In the quest for self-reliance, the private sector shall continue to be associated in defence production with suitable changes in policy and procedures if and when required.